



General Assembly

## ***Amendment***

***January Session, 2015***

**LCO No. 8028**



Offered by:  
SEN. MCLACHLAN, 24<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6997

File No. 840

Cal. No. 524

***"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BOARD OF  
ACCOUNTANCY'S RECOMMENDATION TO REDEFINE "ATTEST"  
AND "REPORT"."***

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 1-300 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

5 (a) There is established the Office of Governmental Accountability.  
6 The executive administrator of the office shall serve as the  
7 administrative head of the office, who shall be appointed in  
8 accordance with the provisions of section 1-301, as amended by this  
9 act.

10 (b) The Office of Governmental Accountability shall provide  
11 personnel, payroll, affirmative action and administrative and business  
12 office functions and information technology associated with such  
13 functions for the following: The [Office of State Ethics established

14 under section 1-80, State Elections Enforcement Commission  
15 established under section 9-7a, Freedom of Information Commission  
16 established under section 1-205,] Judicial Review Council established  
17 under section 51-51k, Judicial Selection Commission established under  
18 section 51-44a, Board of Firearms Permit Examiners established under  
19 section 29-32b, Office of the Child Advocate established under section  
20 46a-13k, Office of the Victim Advocate established under section 46a-  
21 13b and State Contracting Standards Board established under section  
22 4e-2. The personnel, payroll, affirmative action and administrative and  
23 business office functions of said offices, [commissions,] commission,  
24 council and boards shall be merged and consolidated within the Office  
25 of Governmental Accountability pursuant to the plan developed and  
26 implemented under the provisions of section 1-302, as amended by this  
27 act.

28 (c) The executive administrator may employ necessary staff to carry  
29 out the administrative functions of the Office of Governmental  
30 Accountability, within available appropriations. Such necessary staff of  
31 the Office of Governmental Accountability shall be in classified  
32 service.

33 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect or limit the  
34 independent decision-making authority of the [Office of State Ethics,  
35 State Elections Enforcement Commission, the Freedom of Information  
36 Commission,] Judicial Review Council, Judicial Selection Commission,  
37 Board of Firearms Permit Examiners, Office of the Child Advocate,  
38 Office of the Victim Advocate or the State Contracting Standards  
39 Board. Such decision-making authority includes, but is not limited to,  
40 decisions concerning budgetary issues and concerning the  
41 employment of necessary staff to carry out the statutory duties of each  
42 such office, commission, council or board.

43 Sec. 502. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 1-301 of the  
44 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
45 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

46 (a) (1) There shall be a Governmental Accountability Commission,  
47 within the Office of Governmental Accountability established under  
48 section 1-300, as amended by this act, that shall consist of [nine] six  
49 members as follows: [(A) The chairperson of the Citizen's Ethics  
50 Advisory Board established under section 1-80, or the chairperson's  
51 designee; (B) the chairperson of the State Elections Enforcement  
52 Commission established under section 9-7a, or the chairperson's  
53 designee; (C) the chairperson of the Freedom of Information  
54 Commission established under section 1-205, or the chairperson's  
55 designee; (D) the] (A) The executive director of the Judicial Review  
56 Council established under section 51-51k, or the executive director's  
57 designee; [(E)] (B) the chairperson of the Judicial Selection Commission  
58 established under section 51-44a, or the chairperson's designee; [(F)]  
59 (C) the chairperson of the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners  
60 established under section 29-32b, or the chairperson's designee; [(G)]  
61 (D) the Child Advocate appointed under section 46a-13k, or the  
62 advocate's designee; [(H)] (E) the Victim Advocate appointed under  
63 section 46a-13b, or the advocate's designee; and [(I)] (F) the  
64 chairperson of the State Contracting Standards Board established  
65 under section 4e-2, or the chairperson's designee, provided no person  
66 serving as a designee under this subsection may be a state employee.  
67 The Governmental Accountability Commission shall select a  
68 chairperson who shall preside at meetings of the commission. Said  
69 commission shall meet for the purpose of making recommendations to  
70 the Governor for candidates for the executive administrator of the  
71 Office of Governmental Accountability pursuant to the provisions of  
72 subsection (b) of this section, or for the purpose of terminating the  
73 employment of the executive administrator.

74 Sec. 503. Section 1-302 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
75 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

76 (a) Not later than November 1, 2011, the executive administrator  
77 appointed under section 1-301 shall develop and implement a plan for  
78 the Office of Governmental Accountability to merge and provide for

79 personnel, payroll, affirmative action and administrative and business  
80 office functions and information technology associated with such  
81 functions for the [Office of State Ethics established under section 1-80,  
82 State Elections Enforcement Commission established under section 9-  
83 7a, Freedom of Information Commission established under section 1-  
84 205,] Judicial Review Council established under section 51-51k, Judicial  
85 Selection Commission established under section 51-44a, Board of  
86 Firearms Permit Examiners established under section 29-32b, Office of  
87 the Child Advocate established under section 46a-13k, Office of the  
88 Victim Advocate established under section 46a-13b and State  
89 Contracting Standards Board established under section 4e-2.

90 (b) Not later than January 2, 2012, the executive administrator of the  
91 Office of Governmental Accountability, in conjunction with (1) the  
92 executive director, or the executive director's designee, of [each of the  
93 following: The Office of State Ethics, the Freedom of Information  
94 Commission, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and] the  
95 Judicial Review Council, (2) the chairperson or the chairperson's  
96 designee of each of the following: The Judicial Selection Commission,  
97 the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners, and the State Contracting  
98 Standards Board, (3) the Child Advocate or the advocate's designee,  
99 and (4) the Victim Advocate or the advocate's designee shall submit a  
100 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint  
101 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
102 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,  
103 government administration, the judiciary, children, public safety and  
104 human services concerning (A) the status of the merger described in  
105 subsection (a) of this section, and (B) any recommendations for further  
106 legislative action concerning such merger, including, but not limited  
107 to, recommendations to further consolidate and merge functions  
108 performed by the offices, [commissions,] commission, boards and  
109 council within the Office of Governmental Accountability such as  
110 those concerning best use of staff, elimination of redundancies and  
111 cross-training of staff for the purpose of using staff to perform  
112 functions across [such] said offices, [commissions,] commission,

113 boards and council.

114 Sec. 504. Subsection (a) of section 1-80 of the general statutes is  
115 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
116 *1, 2015*):

117 (a) There shall be established [, within the Office of Governmental  
118 Accountability established under section 1-300,] an Office of State  
119 Ethics. Said office shall consist of an executive director, general  
120 counsel, ethics enforcement officer and such other staff as hired by the  
121 executive director. Within the Office of State Ethics, there shall be the  
122 Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board that shall consist of nine members,  
123 appointed as follows: One member shall be appointed by the speaker  
124 of the House of Representatives, one member by the president pro  
125 tempore of the Senate, one member by the majority leader of the  
126 Senate, one member by the minority leader of the Senate, one member  
127 by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, one member by  
128 the minority leader of the House of Representatives, and three  
129 members by the Governor. Members of the board first appointed for a  
130 term commencing October 1, 2005, shall have the following terms: The  
131 Governor shall appoint two members for a term of three years and one  
132 member for a term of four years; the majority leader of the House of  
133 Representatives, minority leader of the House of Representatives and  
134 the speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint one  
135 member for a term of two years; and the president pro tempore of the  
136 Senate, the majority leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the  
137 Senate shall each appoint one member for a term of four years. The  
138 term commencing October 1, 2009, for the member appointed by the  
139 Governor and the member appointed by the president pro tempore of  
140 the Senate shall be five years. Upon the expiration of such members'  
141 five-year terms, such members may not be reappointed. Any member  
142 appointed for a term commencing on or after October 1, 2014, shall  
143 serve for a term of four years. No individual shall be appointed to  
144 more than one four-year or five-year term as a member of the board,  
145 provided, members may not continue in office after their term has

146 expired and members first appointed may not be reappointed. No  
147 more than five members shall be members of the same political party.  
148 The members appointed by the majority leader of the Senate and the  
149 majority leader of the House of Representatives shall be selected from  
150 a list of nominees proposed by a citizen group having an interest in  
151 ethical government. The majority leader of the Senate and the majority  
152 leader of the House of Representatives shall each determine the citizen  
153 group from which each will accept such nominations. One member  
154 appointed by the Governor shall be selected from a list of nominees  
155 proposed by a citizen group having an interest in ethical government.  
156 The Governor shall determine the citizen group from which the  
157 Governor will accept such nominations.

158 Sec. 505. Subsection (a) of section 1-81a of the general statutes is  
159 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
160 *1, 2015*):

161 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the  
162 appropriations recommended for [the division of] the Office of State  
163 Ethics [within the Office of Governmental Accountability established  
164 under section 1-300, which division shall have a separate line item  
165 within the budget for the Office of Governmental Accountability,]  
166 established in section 1-80, as amended by this act, shall be the  
167 estimates of expenditure requirements transmitted to the Secretary of  
168 the Office of Policy and Management by the executive [administrator  
169 of the Office of Governmental Accountability] director of the Office of  
170 State Ethics and the recommended adjustments and revisions of such  
171 estimates shall be the recommended adjustments and revisions, if any,  
172 transmitted by said executive [administrator] director to the Office of  
173 Policy and Management.

174 Sec. 506. Subsection (a) of section 1-205 of the general statutes is  
175 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
176 *1, 2015*):

177 (a) There shall be established [, within the Office of Governmental

178 Accountability established under section 1-300,] a Freedom of  
179 Information Commission consisting of nine members. (1) Five of such  
180 members shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and  
181 consent of either house of the General Assembly. Such members shall  
182 serve for terms of four years from July first of the year of their  
183 appointment, except that of the members appointed prior to and  
184 serving on July 1, 1977, one shall serve for a period of six years from  
185 July 1, 1975, one shall serve for a period of four years from July 1, 1975,  
186 and one shall serve for a period of six years from July 1, 1977. Of the  
187 two new members first appointed by the Governor after July 1, 1977,  
188 one shall serve from the date of such appointment until June 30, 1980,  
189 and one shall serve from the date of such appointment until June 30,  
190 1982. (2) On and after July 1, 2011, four members of the commission  
191 shall be appointed as follows: One by the president pro tempore of the  
192 Senate, one by the minority leader of the Senate, one by the speaker of  
193 the House of Representatives and one by the minority leader of the  
194 House of Representatives. Such members shall serve for terms of two  
195 years from July first of the year of their appointment. (3) No more than  
196 five members of the commission shall be members of the same political  
197 party. Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be  
198 filled by the appointing authority for the unexpired portion of the  
199 term.

200 Sec. 507. Subsection (a) of section 1-205a of the general statutes is  
201 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
202 *1, 2015*):

203 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the  
204 appropriations recommended for [the division of] the Freedom of  
205 Information Commission [within the Office of Governmental  
206 Accountability established under section 1-300, which division shall  
207 have a separate line item within the budget for the Office of  
208 Governmental Accountability,] established in section 1-205, as  
209 amended by this act, shall be the estimates of expenditure  
210 requirements transmitted to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and

211 Management by the executive [administrator of the Office of  
212 Governmental Accountability] director of the commission and the  
213 recommended adjustments and revisions of such estimates shall be the  
214 recommended adjustments and revisions, if any, transmitted by said  
215 executive [administrator] director to the Office of Policy and  
216 Management.

217 Sec. 508. Subsection (a) of section 9-7a of the general statutes is  
218 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
219 *1, 2015*):

220 (a) There is established [, within the Office of Governmental  
221 Accountability established under section 1-300,] a State Elections  
222 Enforcement Commission to consist of five members, not more than  
223 two of whom shall be members of the same political party and at least  
224 one of whom shall not be affiliated with any political party.

225 (1) Of the members first appointed under this subsection, one shall  
226 be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives  
227 and shall hold office for a term of one year from July 1, 1974; one shall  
228 be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate and shall hold office  
229 for a term of three years from said July first; one shall be appointed by  
230 the speaker of the House of Representatives and shall hold office for a  
231 term of one year from said July first; one shall be appointed by the  
232 president pro tempore of the Senate and shall hold office for a term of  
233 three years from said July first and one shall be appointed by the  
234 Governor, provided such member shall not be affiliated with any  
235 political party, and shall hold office for a term of five years from said  
236 July first, except members appointed on or after July 1, 2011.

237 (2) On and after July 1, 2011, members shall be appointed for terms  
238 of three years from July first in the year of their appointment and shall  
239 be appointed by the person holding the same office as was held by the  
240 person making the original appointment, provided any person chosen  
241 to fill a vacancy shall be appointed only for the unexpired term of the  
242 member whom he or she shall succeed. On and after July 1, 2011, no



243 member may serve more than two consecutive terms, except that any  
244 member serving on said date, may serve until a successor is appointed  
245 and has qualified. All appointments shall be made with the consent of  
246 the state Senate and House of Representatives. No person who has  
247 served during any part of the three-year period prior to the  
248 appointment as a political party officer, shall be appointed to  
249 membership on the commission. For purposes of this subsection,  
250 "political party officer" means an officer of a national committee of a  
251 political party, state central or town committee. The commission shall  
252 elect one of its members to serve as chairperson and another member  
253 to serve as vice-chairperson. Each member of the commission shall be  
254 compensated at the rate of two hundred dollars per day for any day on  
255 which he participates in a regular commission meeting or hearing, and  
256 shall be paid by the state for his reasonable expenses, including  
257 necessary stenographic and clerical help.

258 Sec. 509. Subsection (a) of section 9-7c of the general statutes is  
259 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
260 *1, 2015*):

261 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the  
262 appropriations recommended for [the division of] the State Elections  
263 Enforcement Commission [within the Office of Governmental  
264 Accountability established under section 1-300, which division shall  
265 have a separate line item within the budget for the Office of  
266 Governmental Accountability,] established in section 9-7a, as amended  
267 by this act, shall be the estimates of expenditure requirements  
268 transmitted to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management by  
269 the executive [administrator of the Office of Governmental  
270 Accountability] director of the commission and the recommended  
271 adjustments and revisions of such estimates shall be the recommended  
272 adjustments and revisions, if any, transmitted by said executive  
273 [administrator] director to the Office of Policy and Management."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	1-300
Sec. 502	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	1-301(a)(1)
Sec. 503	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	1-302
Sec. 504	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	1-80(a)
Sec. 505	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	1-81a(a)
Sec. 506	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	1-205(a)
Sec. 507	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	1-205a(a)
Sec. 508	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	9-7a(a)
Sec. 509	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	9-7c(a)